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PRIMATE EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS

ABSTRACT

5 A purified preparation of primate embryonic stem
cells is disclosed. This preparation is characterized
by the following cell surface markers: SSEA-1 (-);
SSEA-3 (+); SSEA-4 (+); TRA-1-60 (+); TRA-1-81 (+); and
alkaline phosphatase (+). In a particularly
10 advantageous embodiment, the cells of the preparation
have normal karyotypes and continue to proliferate in
an undifferentiated state after continuous culture for
eleven months. The embryonic stem cell lines also
retain the ability, throughout the culture, to form
trophoblast and to differentiate into all tissues
15 derived from all three embryonic germ layers (endoderm,
mesoderm and ectoderm). A method for isolating a
primate embryonic stem cell line is also disclosed.